

Federal Advisory Committee (FAC) Membership Balance Plan

Please read the [Federal Advisory Committee Membership Balance Plan Guidance](#) prior to completing this form

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| NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES |
| (1) FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME <i>State the legal name of the FAC</i> |
| National Council on the Humanities (NCH) |
| (2) AUTHORITY <i>Identify the authority for establishing the FAC</i> |
| 20 U.S.C. § 957 of the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965, as amended. |
| (3) MISSION/FUNCTION <i>Describe the mission/function of the FAC</i> |
| The NCH shall (1) advise the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Chairperson with respect to policies, programs, and procedures for carrying out the Chairperson's functions; and (2) review applications for financial support and make recommendations thereon to the Chairperson. |
| (4) POINTS OF VIEW <i>Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,</i> <i>(a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories (e.g. individual expertise or represented interests) from which candidates will be considered;</i> <i>(b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and</i> <i>(c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members</i> |
| The NCH shall be composed of the NEH Chairperson, who shall be the NCH Chairperson, and twenty-six other (26) Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) members. These other members shall be individuals who: (1) are selected from among private citizens of the United States who are recognized for their broad knowledge of, expertise in, or commitment to the humanities; and (2) have established records of distinguished service and scholarship or creativity and in a manner which will provide a comprehensive representation of the views of scholars and professional practitioners in the humanities and of the public throughout the United States. The President is requested in the making of such appointments to give consideration to such recommendations as may from time to time be submitted to him by leading national organizations concerned with the humanities. In making such appointments, the President shall give due regard to equitable representation of women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities who are involved in the humanities. The twenty-six (26) NCH members serve as Special Government Employees (SGE). |
| (5) OTHER BALANCE FACTORS <i>List any other factors your agency identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC</i> |
| N/A |

(6) CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance. The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify the agency key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by the agency; and*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

NCH members are Presidential appointed, Senate-confirmed (PAS) members. Each member shall serve for six (6) years and the terms are staggered. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve the remainder of the term for which such member's predecessor was appointed. No member shall be eligible for reappointment during the two-year period following the expiration of such member's term. Notwithstanding other provisions, a member shall serve after the expiration of his or her term until a successor takes office.

(7) SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

The process used to determine advisory committee membership balance for the NCH will be used for any subcommittees that may be created.

(8) OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

N/A

(9) DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

Insert the actual date the Membership Balance Plan was initially prepared, along with the date(s) the Plan is updated

This Membership Balance Plan was prepared on December 21, 2011, and updated on November 4, 2013, and on November 25, 2015 as part of the biennial charter renewal process.